matter without being invited to do so by the State Archives concerned. However, technical advice will be rendered if request is made.

H. Provision of special grants for the Development of State Archives

(8) Resolution by Madhya Pradesh Government

"Resolved that the Commission should impress upon the Central Government to provide special grants for the development programmes of State Archives on priority basis."

Explanatory Note:

The resolution itself is a self explanatory. Needless to say that the Commission in their several meetings have felt for such an urgent need and for this purpose a committee was also set up under the Chairmanship of the Director, National Archives of India. This Committee had a long discussion with the Planning Cell which also brought fruits for the development of Archives in the country.

The various States like Madhya Pradesh, Haryana who have recently organised the State Archives have their own problems or some of the States who intend to organise the Archives have their own limitations. It is hardly necessary to say that the State Governments are leaving no stone unturned to organise the State repositories but the limited resources prevent them to provide more funds to the Archives. Therefore, it would in the fitness of the things that the Central Government should provide on top priority basis some special grants for the State Archives which has recently been set up. The various problems such as buildings, equipments etc., can be tackled only if such grant is made available to the State Archives.

Standing Committee's views:

The resolution draws attention to a very real problem and should be supported. Similar recommendation has been made by the Committee on Record Management (Para 2.12).

I. Introduction of National Readers Cards

(9) Resolution by Shri J.K. Jain:

"Resolved that a system of 'National Readers Cards' be introduced as it would facilitate and encourage genuine research in the country".

Explanatory Note:

The idea of issuing International Readers Cards has been attracting the attention of the archivists for the last many years but without success. Since the idea in itself is quite noble and practical at least at the National level, it is high time that an honest trial is given in our Country. The system besides saving a lot of time of the scholars in entering into a similar correspondence for seeking permission with many Archival Institutions of the Country, will also bring a regular coordination between the National Archives and the various State Archives. At the same time it will pave the way in bringing a uniformity in research rules and 'open period' of records, etc. for the researchers. Here it may be added that initially these cards could be issued to the University teaching staff and registered research scholars; and the cards could be issued both by the Director of National Archives as well as the Directors of State Archives of the Country.